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SENATOR SCOTT: HAMTRAMCK TO BE STRONGER AND MORE VIBRANT AFTER SURVIVING FISCAL CRISIS

Board Signs Contract Addendum Ending State Takeover

LANSING- Promising a brighter future, State Senator Martha G. Scott (D-Highland Park) praised the citizens of Hamtramck today for having endured a long and difficult fiscal crisis which culminated in a state takeover of the municipalities' financial operations. Her comments were made the same day the Emergency Financial Assistance Loan Board voted to relinquish state control to the elected Mayor and City Council.

"I'm proud of the citizens of Hamtramck for having endured this financial emergency with such dignity and determination," Sen. Scott said. "With local control about to be restored, I'm confident Hamtramck will emerge from this crisis stronger, more vibrant and more diverse."

In 2000, then Gov. John Engler ordered a takeover of the financial operations of Hamtramck after the city ran a \$2 million deficit and after two different city councils refused to approve annual budgets. Louis H. Schimmel, who was appointed by the Governor to oversee Hamtramck's fiscal matters, has since balanced the municipality's budget through a series of cost-cutting measures.

"I know that this has been a frustrating and painful process, at times, for many in the Hamtramck community," Sen. Scott said. "But with the fiscal crisis behind it, Hamtramck's future is much brighter and its potential unlimited."